The Mischin Statement

5 YEARS SERVICE

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FEBRUARY 2014, NORTH METRO 4.1

THE ELECTORATE NEWSLETTER OF THE HON. MICHAEL MISCHIN MLC, MEMBER FOR NORTH METROPOLITAN, ATTORNEY GENERAL & MINISTER FOR COMMERCE

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Mandatory sentencing beefed up

WESTERN Australia's tough mandatory sentencing laws will be further tightened to ensure adult offenders serve their full minimum jail sentence before being eligible for parole.

The new measures will apply to any adult convicted of either assaulting a public officer or dangerous driving causing death or serious injury, while evading police.

Attorney General **Michael Mischin** introduced the *Sentencing Legislation Amendment Bill 2013* into State Parliament late last year to ensure the protection of public officers and to deter offenders from fleeing police.

"For people serving a sentence of less than four years imprisonment, parole eligibility arises halfway through their sentence," Mr Mischin said.

For assaults against police and other public officers, offenders face a minimum jail term of 12 months

"The *Criminal Code Amendment Bill 2009*, which imposed mandatory terms of imprisonment, did not alter or purport to alter the existing law surrounding parole.

"However, it is the expectation of the State Government and community that mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment mean a mandatory minimum term in custody.

"If you are sentenced under the laws for assaulting a public officer, for example, then you should spend a minimum of six months in jail, not part of that time on parole."

For assaults against police and other public officers, offenders face a minimum jail term of 12 months for grievous bodily harm, nine months for bodily harm (in circumstances of aggravation) and six months for bodily harm.

There is a mandatory minimum 12-month jail term for a driver who attempts to escape a police pursuit and engages in dangerous driving which causes death or serious injury.

Police Minister Liza Harvey said the Government had moved swiftly to amend the legislation following a case in 2013 where an offender convicted of assaulting a police officer was granted parole after just four-and-a-half months in jail.

"It is important these laws function as intended. That is, to discourage violent attacks on public officers, and therefore provide enhanced protection to those who put themselves in harm's way in order to serve the WA community," Mrs Harvey said.

Authorised by Michael Mischin, 5 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup

School parking tips are timely

CONGRATULATIONS to the **City of Stirling** for its latest initiative in helping school parents park in and around our schools more safely. This is very timely given that schools commenced for the 2014 year only last week. The City recently distributed a flier to schools, advising of the best practices to adopt in parking. Michael's office thought the advice so good that it would be useful outside the City of Stirling.

School Parking

Areas in and around schools present potential parking problems as there may be speeding motorists, busy roads and limited parking bays.

Offences include:

- Parking over footpaths
- Blocking driveways
- Parking in a No Stopping or No Parking area
- Double parking
- Parking on a verge without the owner's consent
- Parking facing the wrong way.

Remember

It is also an offence to stop or park a vehicle:

- Within three metres of a continuous dividing line or median strip
- Within ten metres of an intersection/corner (without traffic control signals)
- On a median strip or traffic island
- So that any portion is within a bus zone.

How can parents help?

- Walk or cycle to school when dropping off or collecting children
- Park nearby and walk a short distance to the school
- Plan your trip so you arrive on the school side of the road
- Avoid leaving your vehicle for long periods
- Adhere to signage at all times
- Form a School Road Safety committee (contact your principal and P&C)
- Use public transport
- Slow down around schools and be aware.

How can schools help?

- Educate students about parking procedures around the school
- Encourage children to educate their parents and carers on safe school parking
- Establish a **supervised** Kiss-n-Ride facility or traffic policy, which can be published for the reference of all parents and carers.
- Notify parents of any problems via school newsletters and at assemblies.

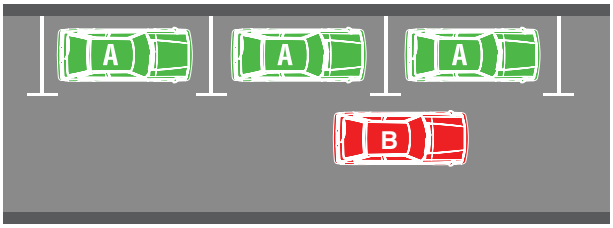
Image source: Courier-Mail website

No stopping areas

No Stopping areas can be defined by signage or a continuous yellow line painted along the edge of a road. A driver is not permitted to stop on a length of road, or in an area, to where no stopping restrictions apply. Vehicles may only stop in these zones to comply with other regulations (for example at traffic lights or to avoid an accident). Drivers are not permitted to drop off passengers or goods in No Stopping areas.

Double parking

A driver must not stop a vehicle so that any portion of the vehicle is between any other stopped vehicle and the centre of the road.



Example

In the example, the vehicle B is stopped in contravention of this regulation.

Parking DOs and DON'Ts

DOs

- Be aware
- Be courteous
- Be responsible
- Use the Kiss and Drive facility (if provided)
- Observe and adhere to all regulatory signage
- Drive Safely

DON'Ts

- Block driveways
- Park on footpaths
- Park in Bus Zones
- Obstruct children's crossings
- Park on a verge without consent
- Double park

Authorised by Michael Mischin, 5 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup

At the ELC were (L to R) Toni Emmanuel (Principal Solicitor), Cecily Montgomery (Chairperson), Hon Michael Mischin MLC and Sara Kane (Manager).

AG enjoys legal centre visit

ON 6 December last year, Attorney General **Michael Mischin** launched the **Employment Law Centre of WA**'s (ELC) new client website and improved and enhanced telephone advice line.

It was a wonderful opportunity to see the ELC's new services first hand and thank staff and volunteers.

Michael was greeted by **Sara Kane**, the manager of the centre. There were about 80 people present, including representatives from various law firms and legal centres, the Industrial Relations Commission and several unions.

The ELC WA is a community legal centre that has provided employment law advice, education, advocacy, representation, information and referrals to vulnerable non-unionised employees in WA since 2001. It focusses on issues such as unfair dismissal, adverse action, unlawful termination, underpayment of entitlements, breach of contract, equal opportunity, and occupational health and safety.

You can contact the ELC on **1300 130** 956 or 9227 0111 or visit their website at: **www.elcwa.org.au**

Don't leave pets in hot vehicles

MICHAEL Mischin, an avowed animal lover and pet owner, has joined a number of RSPCA WA inspectors who say they are frustrated at receiving so many complaints about dogs left in cars when people go out.

With our recent hot weather has come a real danger for our pets – but one that can be easily avoided.

Don't leave pets in hot cars for any reason.

The temperature inside a car rises rapidly in this heat – on a 37° C day, the temperature in a car can rise above 50° in a matter of minutes.

Cats and dogs (and many other pets of course) cannot tolerate heat like this, especially in an enclosed space like a car.

By just the end of January this summer, the RSPCA reported that it had received 190 calls about dogs left in hot cars, and we still have many more hot periods ahead before the cooler months arrive.

RSPCA inspectors and Police are legally authorised to break into vehicles, if necessary, to rescue an animal but it shouldn't really come to that.

The RSPCA's message is quite simple; if you are going out, leave your dog at home in the shade with plenty of cool water.

If it is a hot day, don't walk your dog in the heat of the day either – instead, walk them at dawn or dusk when it's cooler.

Let's be brief

Wireless windup

THERE is a significant change coming to the way many community organisations and schools use wireless microphones.

Part of the 'spectrum' used by wireless sound devices will be reserved for 4G mobile services by the **Australian Communications and Media Authority** as of 1 January 2015. This mean some users will have to reset their equipment to use a different frequency. Full details on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.

NASHOs' day

THIS year is the 40th anniversary of the day that the last NASHO (National Serviceman) completed full-time service for Australia.

To mark this important milestone the **National Servicemen's Association** will hold a commemorative service at 10.45am on Friday 14 February at the Kings Park War memorial.

Ovarian awareness

FEBRUARY is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

Each day in Australia four woman are diagnosed with ovarian cancer which, sadly, has the lowest survival rate of all female cancers. Over 1,000 women die from it every year.

For more information about an Afternoon Teal (yes, Teal – that's **Ovarian Cancer Australia**'s official colour) near you is available on www.ovariancancer.net.au

LED signs on track

THE State Government's campaign to install 40kph LED signs in all WA school zones is on track.

The previous Labor Government had the opportunity to install these life-saving devices during eight years of running the state but manged to erect just 10 a year.

The **Barnett Government** has just installed our 172nd set of lights with a further 66 to be completed before the middle of the year.

All 1072 school zones will be covered by mid-2017!

Authorised by Michael Mischin, 5 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup

Minister catches up with sparkies

MINISTER for Commerce Hon **Michael Mischin** MLC visited the new campus of NECA (the **National Electrical and Communications Association**) last week.

NECA WA is the leading provider of tailored business services to the electrical and communication contracting companies in Western Australia. It includes E**lectrical Group Training Ltd** (EGT) - the largest employer of highly skilled electrical apprentices in Australia and WA's elite electrical training provider the **College of Electrical Training** (CET).

The state-of-the-art college in Joondalup officially opened late last year but Mr Mischin was unable to attend due to Parliamentary commitments. NECA has three campuses in WA and Joondalup will accommodate 1,100 electrical apprentices when fully operational this year (with the ability to train a further 1,000 external students).

The NECA campus joins MITA (the Motor Industry Training Association) as yet another educational facility in Joondalup's rapidly expanding **education precinct**.

Watts all this then? Minister Mischin (centre) gets the grand tour of NECA's new Joondalup facility from (left) Carl Copeland, General Manager, and (right) Garry Itzstein, Executive Director.

Let's be brief

Service awards

TIME is running out to nominate an outstanding member of your community for a **2014 Community Service Excellence Award**.

Nominations close on 28 February 2014.

The awards are presented by the WA Government and the **WA Council of Social Services** (WACOSS) to recognise the role of individuals and organisations in the community sector that make a difference to others.

Winners receive a $5,000 grant from Lotterywest. More information at www.acoss.org.au

Easy insurance

HELP is at hand for those of us mystified by the world of insurance.

The **Insurance Council of WA** has developed a very good website that provides simple, graphical information for all types of insurance products.

Check it out at www.understandinginsurance.com.au

Community sport and rec wins big

APPLICATIONS are being invited for the latest round of small grants as part of the **Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund** (CSRFF).

Sport and Recreation Minister **Terry Waldron** said the small grants were designed especially for those cases where grassroots clubs and councils needed financial assistance to complete a project which might otherwise be out of reach.

"These kinds of grants can really help revitalise something like a set of tennis courts, making it a facility which the whole community will enjoy using," Mr Waldron said.

The grants are for a total project cost of up to $150,000. Works undertaken can include floodlighting, safety fencing, change room facilities, storage and skate park upgrades. Not-for-profit sport, recreation or community groups and local government authorities from all over Western Australia seeking capital works grants to develop sport and recreation facilities are eligible.

The State Government makes $20 million available each year through the CSRFF program.

For information visit: www.dsr.wa.gov.au/facilitiesfunding

Safety and security rebates available

DID you know WA Seniors Card holders in the electorate can now apply for the new rebate to improve their safety and security?

The new rebate includes up to **$200 for a personal safety device**, however if you have previously received the rebate but have experienced a break-in from 1 January 2014, you will be eligible for *another* $200 to upgrade or replace your security.

If you would like more information, please call your local Liberal Parliamentary representative.

In the northern suburbs, in Joondalup, the local State MP is **Jan Norberger** on 9300 3990, in Wanneroo it's **Paul Miles** on 9405 1244, Girrawheen's Liberal is **Liz Behjat** on 9440 4422 and, in the Bulter electorate further north, it's **Peter Katasambanis** on 9345 2767.

Authorised by Michael Mischin, 5 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup

Citizenship program surges ahead

MICHAEL continues to welcome new Australian Citizens, in writing, from those sections of the cities of Wanneroo, Joondalup, Stirling and Vincent (and the town of Cambridge) that fall within his **North Metropolitan Region** electorate.

The recent record-breaking Australia Day citizenship ceremonies across North Metro (Wanneroo welcomed an amazing 760 plus new citizens this year according to media reports) saw an avalanche of letters head out to congratulate our newest Australians.

Michael has been welcoming these families since May 2009. **As of 6 February 2014, Michael has written to more than 14,400 recipients of Australian Citizenship certificates who have made our region in Western Australia their new home.**

Michael's own family arrived from war-torn Europe after World War II seeking a better life. They found it. As a consequence, Michael understands how important it is for everyone to 'belong' to their country, be it adopted or not.

As our new Prime Minister Tony Abbot said on Australia Day: "While Australia Day formally marks the anniversary of the arrival of the First Fleet, today we celebrate something richer and deeper. We celebrate the nation and people we have become. We are the grateful inheritors of two strands of history: a British heritage and an Aboriginal one. We honour both today. Along with the millions of settlers from around the world who have made their home in Australia since 1788, we have become one people sharing the one land We are fulfilling the aspiration put forward in the opening of the Australian Constitution: 'that the people… have agreed to unite in one indissoluble Federal Commonwealth'.

"Twenty three million of us have found unity in our diversity, respect in our differences and have built a modern nation on the idea that anyone can get ahead provided they are prepared to 'have a go'. We have always been an immigrant country.

"Since 1949, more than 4.5 million people from across the globe have chosen to make Australia their home.

Today we celebrate the history that has made us who we are; the country that we love and the values and institutions that underpin it.

It is a great day to be Australian - Happy Australia Day!"

WA PREMIER'S AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Do *you* know someone or a community group who:

- Has significantly contributed to the local community?
- Is a strong leader on a community issue and enhances community life?
- Is involved in a significant initiative which has brought about positive change?
- Has inspiring qualities as a role model for the community?

If yes, the **Australia Day Council of Western Australia** invites you to nominate these great ambassadors who act as role models for the community and embody national pride to receive the Australia Day Active Citizenship Award next year.

The three award categories are:

- Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award
- Premier's Australia Day. Active Citizenship Award for a person under 25 years.
- Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award for a community group or event.

A nomination form appears on the last page of this month's newsletter, or you can downloaded an electronic copy from www.wa.australiaday.org.au/

This year, a community group supported by Michael Mischin won the Premier's Award for a Community Group. **Cancer Support WA** was presented with the award on Australia Day for the City of Cottesloe. Congratulations to the entire team at Cancer Support WA.

(Left) New residents of the Town of Cambridge celebrate after their citizenship ceremony on Australia Day 2014. (Above) Cancer Support WA's award.

Authorised by Michael Mischin, 5 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup

Australian Government | acma

Australian Communications and Media Authority
Fact sheet

citizenacma

Wireless microphones—plug and play users

Important changes are happening to wireless audio transmitters—including wireless microphones—which will take effect from 1 January 2015. This fact sheet provides everything you need to know about the changes and what you can do to prepare.

Who uses wireless audio transmitters?

Many community groups and small businesses use wireless audio transmitters—such as wireless microphones, public announcement systems, in-ear monitoring systems and musical pick-ups—for a range of purposes, including:

> school assemblies and university lectures
> religious services
> theatre and live music performances
> auctions
> sporting events and gym classes
> museum and tourism activities
> ceremonies and conferences.

What's changing and why?

Many wireless audio transmitters currently operate in the spectrum located at frequency range 694–820 MHz. But from 1 January 2015, it will be **illegal** to use these devices in this range.

Spectrum is a valuable public asset that is used for a range of purposes; for example, mobile phones, television channels and wireless audio transmitters. Spectrum is divided into frequency ranges called megahertz (MHz). Unlike other users of spectrum, users of wireless audio transmitters don't pay any fees or ongoing charges to use the spectrum.

In 2010, the government declared the 694–820 MHz frequency range as the 'digital dividend', to be used for new communication services from 1 January 2015. This means that devices currently operating in this frequency—such as wireless microphones—must use a different range from 1 January 2015.

Authorised by Michael Mischin, 5 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup

The ACMA is working with community and industry groups now so that they can start planning for the change.

What do I need to do?

Before 1 January 2015, you need to check if you can retune your wireless audio transmitters to use a different frequency range. The range available in your area will depend on television broadcasting arrangements, which are changing and can vary in different locations.

Check your user manual or contact your supplier to find out if your wireless audio transmitter can be retuned so that it operates in a different frequency range. If it can't be retuned, you'll need to buy new equipment—but make sure that any new device you purchase does **not** operate in 694–820 MHz.

What frequency ranges can I use instead?

The main frequency ranges that can be used to operate wireless audio transmitters from 1 January 2015 are 520–694 MHz and 1790–1800 MHz.

However, changes to television broadcasting arrangements may also affect what frequency range you can use in your area. Suppliers can advise you on the most suitable frequency range for your device, depending on where you plan to use it.

What should I do with my old wireless equipment?

Planet Ark's Recycling near you website can identify your nearest electronic waste disposal service.

What laws govern the use of wireless audio transmitters?

Anyone using a wireless audio transmitter is bound by the rules set out in the Low Interference Potential Devices (LIPD) Class Licence.

As LIPD class licensees don't have to pay fees to use the spectrum, they operate on a 'no interference' and 'no protection' basis. Users must ensure that their devices don't cause interference to other radiocommunications devices. They also have no protection from interference or changes that may affect them.

The LIPD Class Licence also sets out what spectrum can be used for wireless audio transmitters.

More information

> Contact your supplier about your specific device to find out the most suitable frequency range for your location.

> Subscribe to our free monthly e-bulletin, visit the wireless microphones hub on our website or email us at freqplan@acma.gov.au.

The ACMA would like to thank Jands Pty Ltd for providing the images of wireless audio transmitters.

Last updated: August 2013.

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Authorised by Michael Mischin, 5 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup

NOMINATION FOR:

- ☐ **Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award**
- ☐ **Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award for a person under 25 years**
- ☐ **Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award for a community group or event**

Australia Day
Australia Day Council of Western Australia

Nomination form

Title ..... Given Names ..... Surname .....

Group *(if applicable)* .....

Address .....

Suburb/Town ..... State ..... Postcode .....

Telephone (Home) ..... (Work) .....

REASONS FOR NOMINATION

HOW HAS THE NOMINEE DEMONSTRATED ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP AND ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNITY LIFE?

Please attach additional information if required

HOW HAS THE NOMINEE'S CONTRIBUTION BEEN RECOGNISED ELSEWHERE?

NOMINATOR

Name ..... Address .....

Suburb/Town ..... State ..... Postcode .....

Telephone (Home) ..... (Work) ..... Email .....

OTHER WILLING TO SUPPORT YOUR NOMINATION

Name .....

Address .....

Suburb/Town ..... State ..... Postcode .....

Telephone (Home) ..... (Work) ..... Email .....

Submit your nomination to the CEO of your Local Council by the FOURTH FRIDAY IN NOVEMBER*

** An alternative closing date may be applicable in your area. Please check with your local Council for details.*

Return to your Local Government office at:

This Nomination Form is also available from the website of the ADCWA at www.ausdaywa.com.au